



News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Send-offs planned in four communities for about 250 Wisconsin National Guard troops

Events in Waukesha, Chippewa Falls, Madison and West Bend

Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton will join senior Wisconsin National Guard officers and other officials this week [Dec. 9-12] for hometown send-off ceremonies for about 210 Wisconsin Army National Guard soldiers. The soldiers are members of four units that were mobilized over the past weekend and are expected to be deployed overseas for one year. A send-off is also planned for about 40 members of another National Guard unit who are replacing others from the unit who are completing one year on active duty.

Mobilized units are Company B, 118th Medical Battalion, Waukesha, with approximately 70 soldiers; the 264th Engineer Group, with about 80 soldiers headquartered in Chippewa Falls; the 232nd Personnel Services Company, with about 50 soldiers in Madison; and Detachment 1, 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment of Madison with about 10 soldiers. In West Bend, about 40 soldiers from the 832nd Medical Company will replace others from the unit who have been on active duty at Fort Lewis, Wash., for nearly a year.

Ceremonies will be held Tuesday, Dec. 9, in Waukesha; Wednesday, Dec. 10, in Chippewa Falls; Thursday, Dec. 11, in Madison; and Friday, Dec. 12, in West Bend. All events are open to the public.

Waukesha — Co. B, 118th Medical Battalion

Time: Tuesday, December 9, 1:00 p.m.

Place: Waukesha West High School Gym, 3301 Saylesville Rd.

Expected Participants: Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton, Maj. Gen. Al Wilkening, Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, Waukesha Mayor Carol Lombardi, Waukesha County Executive Dan Finley, and other state and local officials.

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Guard Send-Offs

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The Waukesha send-off ceremony will honor about 70 National Guard soldiers who entered active duty Dec. 7 and will leave later this week for Fort Drum, N.Y., before deploying overseas for one year. Also present will be family members, friends, and community supporters. Music will be provided by members of the Wisconsin National Guard's 132nd Army Band, along with the Waukesha West High School band.

Chippewa Falls — Headquarters, 264th Engineer Group

Time: Wednesday, December 10, 1:30 p.m.

Place: Chippewa Falls National Guard Armory, 2811 E. Park Ave.

Expected Participants: Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton, Maj. Gen. Al Wilkening, Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, and other state and local officials.

The Chippewa Falls send-off ceremony will honor about 80 National Guard soldiers who entered active duty Dec. 7 and will leave later this week for Fort McCoy before deploying overseas for one year. Also present will be family members, friends, and community supporters. Music will be provided by members of the Wisconsin National Guard's 132nd Army Band.

Madison — 232nd Personnel Services Company Detachment 1, 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Time: Thursday, December 11, 11:00 a.m.

Place: State Headquarters Armory, 2400 Wright St.

Expected Participants: Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton, Sen. Russ Feingold, Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin, Maj. Gen. Al Wilkening, Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk, and other state and local officials.

The Madison send-off ceremony will honor about 50 soldiers from the 232nd Personnel Services Company and 10 from the 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment who entered active duty Dec. 7 and will leave later this week for Fort McCoy before deploying overseas for one year. Also present will be family members, friends, and community supporters. Music will be provided by members of the Wisconsin National Guard's 132nd Army Band.

West Bend — 832nd Medical Company

Time: Friday, December 12, 2:30 p.m.

Place: Army Aviation Support Facility #1, 105 E. Trenton (Note: This is the new facility, not the armory)

Expected Participants: Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton, Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, Brig. Gen. Fred Sloan, West Bend Mayor Mike Miller, Washington County Board Chairman Ken Miller, and other state and local officials.

The West Bend send-off ceremony will honor about 40 soldiers from the 832nd Medical Company will replace others from the unit who have been on active duty at Fort Lewis, Wash., for nearly a year. Also present will be family members, friends, and community supporters. Music will be provided by members of the Wisconsin National Guard's 132nd Army Band.

These mobilizations bring the total number of Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard members on active duty to about 1,710 — which is nearly 18 percent of the Guard's 9,800 soldiers and airmen. Soldiers and airmen from units in 20 Wisconsin communities currently are serving on active duty with the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force. About 930 Wisconsin Guard members are currently serving in Southwest Asia, and at least 200 of the newly mobilized soldiers will also be deployed overseas.

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